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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A method of making shingles comprising:
providing a moving asphalt coated sheet having at least an overlay lane
and an underlay lane;
discharging blend drops of at least two color blends onto each lane,
wherein at least one of the blend drops discharged onto the overlay lane has a
different color blend from the color blends of all the blend drops discharged
onto the underlay lane;
discharging background granules onto the asphalt coated sheet to form a
granule coated sheet; and
removing excess granules from the granule coated sheet.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1 including:
discharging blend drops of three color blends onto the overlay lane and
discharging blend drops of three color blends onto the underlay lane;
wherein at least one of the blend drops discharged onto the overlay lane
has a different color blend from the color blends of all the blend drops
discharged onto the underlay lane.
3. (Original) The method of claim 1 including:
dividing the granule coated sheet into overlay and underlay strips; and
laminating the overlay and underlay strips together to form shingles.
4. (Original) The method of claim 3, wherein one of the blend
drops forms a shadow line on a tab or cutout of the shingle.

5. (Original) A method of making shingles comprising:
providing a moving asphalt coated sheet having an overlay lane, a middle lane and an underlay lane;
discharging blend drops of at least two color blends onto each lane, wherein each lane has a combination of color blends for the blend drops different from the combination of color blends for the blend drops of the other two lanes;
discharging background granules onto the asphalt coated sheet to form a granule coated sheet;
removing excess granules from the granule coated sheet;
dividing the granule coated sheet into continuous overlay, middle and underlay strips; and
laminating the continuous overlay, middle and underlay strips together to form trilaminate shingles.

6. (Original) The method of claim 5 in which:
the step of removing excess granules includes collecting excess granules in a backfall hopper that segregates excess granules from lane to lane; and
the step of applying background granules includes applying to each lane excess granules removed from that lane.

7 through 9. Cancelled